OHIO CULTIVATOR.

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OHIO CULTIVATOR.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Address M. B. BATEHAM, Columbus, O

The Ohio Fruit Convention.

The notice in our last, of the doings of the Fruit growers and Nurserymen, at their recent meeting in this city, was so meagre that we extract a few items of interest from the accounts given by Secretary *Elliott* in the Cleveland Herald, and Vice President *Barker*, in the Morgan Co. Chronicle. Mr. Elliott, after giving the names of officers, &c., reports as follows:

A committee of three was then appointed, consisting of Messrs. Elliott, Bateham, and Dr. Jones of Columbus, to prepare rules of business for the guidance of the Convention.

During the time occupied by this committee in their duties, the names of members in attendance were enrolled upon the minutes, and also a resolution passed expressive of the loss which the Convention as well as the community has sustained in the death of Bela Latham, President of the State Fruit Committee. The business committee then made a report which was accepted and adopted, and in which report it was ordered that the Secretaries make a selection of fruits from time to time as they come before this convention for discussion, and forward the same to the Pomological Convention to be held at New York on the 10th of October.

Reports from the committees of last year were then called for, but few were presented. There has apparently been some misunderstanding with most of the gentlemen so appointed in relation to the duties required of them. We hope another year the gentleman appointed to make notes of fruits as they ripen during the year, will remember the charge, and execute faithfully that the public may be benefitted. As one of the Secretaries, and expecting to have the proceedings of the convention to prepare for publication, we now invite all of the gentlemen appointed as the Fruit Committee last year to write out their notes, either from memoranda or recollection, and forward them to us previous to the 2 th of October, in order that we way embody them in the report of this year.

A visitor to this convention will be struck at once on entering the room, and viewing the collections of apples, by the very marked difference between those from the North and South parts of the State. In those from the north yellow or green is the prevailing color, while red prevails among those from the South. There seems a peculiarity in that the apple of red exterior is more generally fair and perfect, when grown at the South, than can be said of the yellow or green skinned fruit. At the North, most of our yellow or green apples have a handsome blush red cheek. This, when the same variety is grown at the South, disappears, and if the trees are upon bottom land or alluvial soil, is supplied by a dark mould or blotch, which presents anything but an attractive appearance to the fruit.

From Dr. Barker's report:

The seedling apples presented, were referred to a select committee, who reported only three or four as worthy of propagation and introduction into the already swollen list of cultivated varieties.

It became apparent to the members, that many of the numerous varieties of apples present, could not be examined during the session of the Convention, which must close that night. After passing upon 65 varieties the further consideration of those present was necessarily dispensed with, and those presenting them were requested to furnish the Secretaries with their lists, descriptions, &c., &c.

The Convention then took up, discussed and devoured the peaches presented. The finer pears shared the same fate, as well as a part of the grapes presented, but the quantity was so large as to bid defiance to the gastronimic powers of all present.

A committee appointed on the subjects of the future meetings of the Convention, and of a State committee on fruits, for the ensuing year, and also on the subject of sending specimens from that convention to the United States Central Pomological Convention, to be held in N. York on the 10th inst., reported a list of Committeemen, in favor of sending a box of Fruit to the Central Convention and in favor of holding the next annual Convention at Cincinnati, at such time as the Cincinnati Horticultural Society shall direct. All of which was approved by the Convention.

Near the close of the meeting there was much discussion in relation to the publication of the proceedings.

It was finally Resolved, that they should not be published unless the sum of thirty dollars, in addition to the twenty donated by the members present, was made up on or before the 1st day of November, by subscriptions obtained of their fellow citizens, at 25 cents per copy, which they pledged themselves to endeavor to obtain.

At a late hour of the night the Convention adjourned sine die.

As very little has yet been received towards the fund necessary for defraying the expense of publishing the report of the Fruit Convention, we again call the attention of fruit growers and nurserymen to the subject. The report will make a large pamphlet, and will contain matter of the first importance to all fruit growers. Shall the whole work fail now that so much has been done? We would suggest that this would be a proper subject to engage the assistance of the several Horticultural Societies in the State. Let them appropriate say $10 each for the purpose and take copies for the amount, to distribute among the members, and send to distant friends. Will not some person in each society take the matter in hand?

Letter from Washington County.

Marietta, Ohio, Oct. 10, 1848.

M. B. Bateham, Esq.—Our Horticultural Society, as you are aware, was organized the present summer; and from small beginnings has become an important and interesting association.

The cultivation of stone fruits is engaging increased attention. In apples and grapes few counties in the state surpass old Washington.

The officers of the Horticultural Society are John Mills, *Prest.;* Samuel Maxwell, *V. P.;* B. Gates, *Treas.;* T. W. Ewart, *Rec. Sec.;* and D. E. Gardner, *Cor. Sec.*

The occurrence of our Agricultural Fair on the 28th of September, prevented the attendance of the members at the fruit growers' convention in Columbus.

We need to give attention to this matter, for we are not in connection with the rest of the world in regard to the names of our apples. We will be glad to correspond with other Societies.

Our Agricultural Fair was well attended; but in the amount of Stock was light—in swine this county is not surpassed by any county in any State of this Union. In no other Stock do we excel.

The display of apples has rarely been equalled anywhere, and I would direct your attention to the report of Dr. Hildreth, upon the Horticultural department, published in the Marietta Intelligencer, of October 5th.

The officers of the Agricultural Society for the ensuing year, are, Wm. R. Putnam, Jr., *Prest.;* Wm. P. Cutler, *Vice Prest.*, A. L. Guitteau, *Treas.;* B. Gates, *Sec.*—with five directors.

Our premium crops of corn were all from the hill lands of the county—"the knobs"—one of 118 bushels sound corn to the acre, and the other of 115 bushels.

We have now a well replenished treasury, and the next year a liberal effort will be made to secure a better display.

Could we not have a State fair at some point of easy access—bringing together the farmers, mechanics, and all enterprising citizens of this great State. The Legislature would surely make some provision for starting it.

Respectfully,

Darwin E. Gardner.

P. S. Do you know who has Osage Orange Plants, and at what price. D. E. G.

[*Yes.*—See advertisements on last page.—Ed.]

"Divining Rod"--By Dr. Locke.

Mr. Bateham.—In a late No. of your paper I see an article on the Divining rod and "Witching for water."

As I have never seen a proper expose of the fallacy of the "forked stick" I venture to communicate the following explanation:—The stick is held with the forks bent outward in the following form; Fig. 1., the legs or curved ends being grasped with the hands turned palm upward, and of course the thumbs outward. In this position it is carried with the projecting end more or less horizontal over the ground subjected to the search for ores or for water.

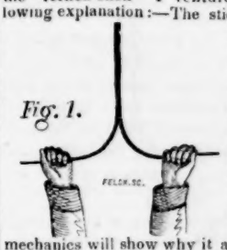


Fig. 1.

A very simple principle of mechanics will show why it appears sometimes to be attracted rather forcibly downward and in such a manner as to deceive the operator himself, unless he be capable of analyzing mechanical forces in their oblique or resultant operations. It will be readily granted that if both the forks were bent downward, the common end or index would tend upward as in Fig. 2., or if the forks were bent upward there would be the same tendency of the index downward, as in Fig. 3. Again if the forks be bent partly outward and partly upward or downward the index will tend to incline in the opposite direction. It is therefore only when the forks are bent *exactly* outward that the index will remain stationary. It follows that if there be the *slightest* rotation of the wrist, in the ordinary mode of holding the rod, the elasticity of the bent branches will throw the index up or down. Let any one try the experiment and he will be convinced of this mode of operating; for if he turns his thumbs too much outward and the palms with them, the index will fly up and perhaps hit him in the face, or if he turn his thumbs and palms inward it will be forced equally downward. Ordinarily the rotation is prevented by grasping the rod rather tightly in the hands, but as the arms tire by an unnatural position, the palms turn gradually and imperceptibly inward, until the elastic force becomes greater than the friction, or even so great as to twist off the bark of the stick, and it tends down to the astonishment of the operator.

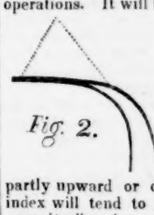


Fig. 2.

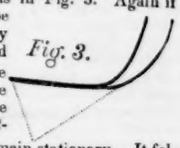


Fig. 3.

Cincinnati, Oct., 1848. J. Locke.

From another Correspondent.

The following is a little spiced with *iron*-y, as well as sound practical philosophy.

Mr. Bateham—I observe in the Cultivator of August 15th, you ask for information respecting well digging, or finding water by means of the divining rod or "forked stick." Now I have had considerable experience in the business of digging wells, and I can usually tell with certainty the depth to water—in a given time—but it sometimes requires several days of patient research with the *forked stick* to do it. For this purpose I use two sticks, with a peice of *iron* on the end of each—commonly called a *mattock* and *shovel!* These are the only reliable divining rods I have been able to discover; and I do not believe there is a man upon the face of the earth, who can tell in any quicker or better way, how deep it is to water, if the water is out of sight. I know there are those who believe that a forked peach tree can be used to indicate the depth to water; and perhaps there are some who believe the moon is made of green cheese—the latter is just as reasonable to my mind as the former.

Stark Co., O. October, 1848. Joseph Taylor.

Another to the Point.

Mr. Bateham.—I recently observed in the Cultivator an inquiry by a correspondent, respecting the discovery of water under ground by the use of the forked stick, or "divining rod," as it is sometimes called.

The use of the forked rod for the above purpose, I feel justified in asserting, is a complete piece of deception.—More than twenty-five years ago I witnessed the performance, in Mansfield in this State, by a professed Water Witch, as he was called in those days; and not having any confidence in the art, as it was said but few could practice it successfully I followed close behind the *professor* and watched him attentively, looking over his shoulder. I observed that when he arrived at the place where he *thought* the well should be dug, *he drew his little fingers down* so as to cause the end of the rod to poise suddenly downwards to near a perpendicular position; he then made a sudden halt and pronounced that place the surest in the yard for producing water. As soon as he was done, I professed to have some skill in the business—took the rod and stepped around the yard with the appearace of a practiced Magician, till I had selected a spot where I thought the well should be dug—then contracting the muscles of the little fingers as above stated, and instantly the rod descended, as in the hands of the older practitioner. The well was dug at the place I selected, and the result gave satisfacton to the proprietor.

Respectfully yours, &c.

B. SHERWOOD.

Newark, O., Oct. 12th, 1848.

Deep Tillage of the Soil.

The following articles on deep tillage, deserve the special attention of farmers and gardeners in Ohio. As a protection against winter killing of wheat, and injury from drought in summer to corn and other crops, *deep culture* (in connection with draining,) will be found of the utmost advantage—besides rendering our lands more productive from the increase of nutriment afforded to the crops.—*Ed. O. Cult.*

After thorough draining *deep tillage* and always having a growing crop on the land are matters of inestimable importance. This subject can hardly be too much talked of, and studied by practical farmers. Deep tillage, what is it? How does it enrich the surface soil, and augment the annual crops of the husbandman? It enables the atmosphere with its natural moisture, its oxygen, carbonic acid and ammonia—with all the gaseous elements of plants and animals which die and decompose on the ground—to penetrate deep into the earth, loosened and mellowed as it should be by subsoil plowing.

Porous loam, clay, mould, marls, and even sand and gravelly earths, have the power to condense both the vapors and pure gasses contained in the air—to absorb and fix them in the soil where they perform most important chemical functions in the laboratory of nature. In the first place we desire the reader to bear in mind that the gasses which pervade the atmosphere are the elements of wheat, corn, clover and flesh, for which God has given to the earth a strong natural affinity. Hence, if a dead pig be buried in a soil a foot deep, you get no smell from the same, which is not the case if the carcass lie and rot on the ground. A shallow soil with the hard-pan close to the surface will absorb a small dose of these fertilizing constituents of dead plants and animals. No matter how richly laden a shower may be with the elements of a crop, a poorly plowed, a shallow tilled piece of ground can absorb and hold very little of the much needed moisture, and other food of starving grain.

During the heat of summer, when the farmer makes his crops, an immense amount of insensible moisture evaporates from the surface of the earth, and especially from the leaves of trees and smaller vegetables. A tight vessel that will catch and hold all the rain that falls during the six warmest months in the year, standing out fairly to the weather, will be dry more than half of the time, in ordinary seasons. Evaporation greatly exceeds the fall of rain, during the time when cultivated plants are grown. This excess of evaporation causes springs to dry up, creeks and rivers to run small in summer and autumn. As a tight jug will prevent water from running in, as well as running out, so a compact, impervious subsoil will prevent the ascent of moisture in dry weather to supply the roots of plants with their indispensable water, as well as obstruct the descent of water when in excess on fields.

Nothing is plainer than the fact that, when the rains of spring and fall, and the snows of winter, saturate the earth with moisture for many feet in depth, the water that descends into the ground carries in solution all the soluble organic and inorganic elements of plants, down so far as it runs. Dissolve an ounce of salt in a gallon of water, and wherever the water permeates, the salt goes with it. You must *evaporate* the water to separate the salt.

Providence has made the subsoil and the earth below it a vast reservoir of water more or less impregnated with those things that combine in cultivated plants—in human food—to form ultimately, the bones, brains, flesh and blood of man and of all inferior animals. Kind reader, would you organise these constituents of grain and grass largely and cheaply in your growing crops? Then break the *undercrust*, that the moisture below with its salts of lime, its dissolved bones, potash, soda, magnesia, chlorine, sulphur, phosphorus, iron, carbon and nitrogen, may come up to the thirsty roots of your plants, and fully nourish the same. A deep tilled soil imbibes more solar heat in summer than a shallow plowed one. Being warmer, chemical changes are more rapid—more food is prepared for your crops in a given time. The mean temperature of the earth in Georgia is from 12 to 18 degrees higher than in New York.

After corn is planted, or the seeds of wheat, barley, rye and oats are covered, there is an advantage in rolling the ground to compress the earth about the seeds; and to check the too rapid evaporation at the surface of the tilled land. We have studied this matter of solar evaporation with care, in more States than one.

To enrich a farm, by accumulating thereon the raw materials for making cheap bread, milk, meat and clothing, every acre, forest, meadow, pasture and plowed-land, should have, during as much of the time as is practicable, a large burden of *growing* vegetation to organize and fix in a tangible shape all the constituents of crops as they exist in the ever moving air, and in the surface and subsoil. If not fixed, they will be lost to the farmer.—Air and water are never stagnant and still over and in the earth, of a healthy neighborhood. So soon as one crop is off, another should be in, to collect and save the dissolving mould, the salt of lime, potash, &c., in the soil—to extract fertilizing minerals from the subsoil, and gasses from the atmosphere. If these auxiliary crops are not needed for hay, nor pasture, nor soiling, nor to sell in market, plow them in, and sow more seed still farther to enrich your land. Vegetable vitality, constantly adding weight and substance to the sum total of organized matter on your plantations is the great and mysterious power, which God has provided for industrious, reasoning man to work with, and supply his ever increasing numbers with an abundance of food and clothing. Vegetable life, to be useful in the highest degree to our race, must be active in the highest degree—not dormant most of the year, and only half developed when cultivated plants are pretending to grow.—*Gen. Far. Aug.*

Deep Tillage in the Garden.

From the Horticultural Department of the Genesee Farmer, for Sept.—By P. BARRY.

It may possibly be that some of the readers of this department of the Farmer are so little interested in Agriculture, strictly speaking, that they may not be in the habit of perusing the agricultural pages. If any such there be, we beg of them to turn to the leader of Dr. LEE, in the August number, and read what he says on "deep tillage." That article we consider one of the very best the Doctor ever penned for the Farmer—and that we conceive to be saying a great deal The most enlightened Agriculturists of the present day, both in Europe and America, regard *deep tillage* as the basis of all good culture. If in farming it be so, and no man denies it, it is not less so in gardening.

No one should, for a moment, think of planting a garden or an orchard until thoroughly trenched or subsoil plowed. In this country, during the growing season, a powerful sun and frequent drouths, during which we see plants growing on a thin surface soil with an unmoved hard pan beneath flag, and actually shrivel up as a thirsty pot plant would. Dr. LEE states the reason forcibly: "As a tight jug will prevent water from running in as well as running out; so a compact, impervious subsoil will prevent the ascent of moisture in dry weather, to supply the roots of plants with their indispensable water, as well as obstruct the descent of water when in excess on fields." The experience of every cultivator will teach him this. How many thousands of young trees are lost in this country by being planted in a small hole on the surface of an impervious hard-pan! They may start and grow during the showery weather of spring, but when three or four weeks of parching hot weather comes along in June, what becomes of them? The young and feeble roots can find no food, the leaves turn yellow, and the trees die. And then the query is propounded, "What killed my trees?" Even the present season, notwithstanding the great improvement that has been made on former practice, we have seen large quantities of trees dying by inches in this way. We have seen orchards planted on land subsoil plowed to the depth of 18 inches, and well manured, where in three years, the trees had attained the size of 10 year old trees under the usual treatment. The simple satisfaction of seeing trees grow in this way amply pays for the extra labor; but, not only do trees grow faster, but the fruit is double the size, and fairer and finer every way.

It frequently happens that, about the time a tree requires a large quantity of moisture to sustain it under a heavy crop of fruit just swelling out to maturity, a drouth comes—the roots of the tree are confined to a few inches of surface soil, and out of that every particle of moisture has evaporated—what then becomes of the fruit? why it either ripens prematurely, falls off, or shrivels up on the tree. Last summer we saw peach trees under such circumstances with the crop lost—actually dried to a crust on the tree. We see trees dropping their fruit while green, from the same reason, and entire crops become stunted and worthless. We have measured apples this season in the deep trenched gardens of this city, 16 inches in circumference, that in an ordinary orchard, would have been probably half that. We have also seen apricots 8 inches in circumference, and plums 6—being double the usual dimensions—all owing to the trees having received a liberal supply of food from the soil. How many, every season, lose their crop of strawberries. A A drought comes just as they are ripening, and unless they are deluged with water twice a day, they are dried up, and even the plants burnt off—while, if the ground had been trenched two feet deep, at least, they would have required no watering, and would have ripened off their fruit well.

The great difficulty in raising pear seedlings in this country, is a leaf blight that attacks them in July, and causes the foliage to drop and the growth to cease completely. Now we apprehend that deep tillage will be at least a partial remedy. This season our pear seedlings grow in a plot trenched last autumn more than two feet deep. The surface soil was placed below, and the subsoil above. During the early part of the season, while the young roots were among the subsoil that had been brought to the surface, the growth was moderate; but about the time the leaf blight was expected, and had actually seized upon others in an untrenched soil, they took a new start—the leaves assumed a deeper green, and the growth was two to one what it had been before. Why?—because the roots had just arrived, in their downward progress, at the fine surface soil that had been buried, and that contained moisture and other fertilizing materials; they revelled in it, and have bade defiance to all kinds of blight, so far.

As to raising fine flowers, it is next to impossible, unless in a deep tilled soil. For proof, witness the innumerable failures in the cultivation of flowers in borders that have been spaded barely 10 inches deep. Unless it be Portulaccas, Mesembry, anthemums, Sedums, Sempervivums, and such succulent things that would flourish on rock, they all dry up in July when three weeks or a month of hot weather comes on.

Lawns you cannot have without *deep tillage*. It is perfect folly to sow grass on ordinary plowed land and hope for a green lawn during summer. The first drouth will scorch it as though fire had passed over it; but deepen your soil with the plow or the spade, two feet deep, and you will have a lawn.

In vegetable gardening, above all, *deep* tillage is indispensable. If you wish Rhubarb, Asparagus, Sea Kale, &c., worth cutting, or fit to appear on the table, *trench your soil two or three feet deep, and manure liberally.* This is the way all large and astonishing crops are produced—all remarkably large and fine specimens of garden products that attract admiration and surprise. This is the only secret of success. Let us then urge on every man who wishes to succeed well in horticulture—who wishes his labors to result to his own satisfaction and the admiration of his neighbors—to "break the *undercrust*," as Dr. LEE says, "that the bones, potash, soda, magnesia, chlorine, sulphur, phosphorus, iron, carbon and nitrogen may come up to the thirsty roots of your plants and fully nourish the same."

Those who intend to plant new orchards, lay out new gardens or grounds, or those who have old ones to renovate should now be at it. Between this and the middle of October, when the planting season begins, much may be done.

From the Prairie Farmer.

Large Crops of Corn, &c.

The editor of the Massachusetts Plowman disputes a yield of corn grown by a member of the Hamilton Co. (O.,) Ag. Society—172 bushels per acre in quantity—and avers that no such quantity can be grown on an acre.—The sort of reasoning by which his opinion is sustained is thus stated in the Plowman:

"Now though the soil of Ohio may naturally be ten times as rich as the soil of Massachusetts, yet it is possible to make one acre here as rich as any one acre in Ohio. And as premiums have been offered here as high as there—and as many of our farmers are as able to make one of their acres rich—it is highly probable that there was no want of richness in the acres here that have been offered for premiums.

Our *enriched* acres may be presumed then to be on a par with the naturally rich acres of Ohio. What is there now to prevent our growing as much corn on a single rich acre here as on any acre there, unless it is shown that our climate is not so favorable for corn as theirs for corn?

Virginia lies farther south than Ohio, but Virginia has never produced more corn on one acre than Massachusetts has—and the product there per acre is generally less than ours. Once in 20 years our corn crop fails—but our hot summers enable us to grow as perfect corn as can be grown anywhere. The limit to our number of bushels per acre is caused by a want of air and light when we attempt to plant close. And the same difficulty is experienced in Ohio. Corn there, must have room as well as in Massachusetts.

Now as no expense has been spared here to grow as much corn as possible on a single acre in order to obtain the highest premiums—and as no farmer here has attempted to prove that he has grown 172 bushels on an acre, the presumption is that this amount cannot be grown.

The modes of measuring corn and the ground on which it is raised are various and quite objectionable. Two rows

are sometimes taken and measured, running the line close to the rows; then the number of rows is counted and the rule of multiplication is applied to come at the result.—At other times one or two square rods are measured off, including the corn stalks only, with as little space outside as possible. These modes are no fair way of coming to a correct result.

The whole acre ought to be measured, and the whole line should not run close to a row, but a space outside should be measured equal to half the distance between the rows.

We know by actual measurement that it is no easy matter to grow one hundred bushels of corn on one acre of ground. Such a growth here is seldom seen. It is useless to crowd the hills; they must have room. And the same reasons which limit us operate as powerfully in Ohio as here."

Now with all due deference to the opionion of the editor of the Plowman, we suggest that his reasoning will not hold. The question is one of *fact*, on which opinion amounts to nothing. The question is not whether 100 bushels, more or less, can be grown in Massachusetts; but did the amount specified grow in Ohio. It might as well be said that paw paws do not grow native in New England, and therefore do not in Illinois.

We pretend to no particular knowledge in this case, but we can readily suggest one or two matters which the Plowman either overlooks, or has had no opportunity to estimate.

In the first place, Ohio and Illinois grow different varieties of corn from those which are or can be successfully cultivated in Massachusetts. It grows higher, and is capable of a far higher yield.

In the next place, the soil, sun, and atmosphere, differ materially from those of the Bay State.

It may be difficult to define these differences so as to meet the apprehension of a man who has never been here. It may be true that the summers are as hot in Massachusetts as in Ohio—that is, that the mercury on some day may indicate as extreme a heat. We remember a day in that State when it stood at 100° Fahrenheit. So will the mercury stand as high perhaps in Boston as in Charleston, S. C. But we have far more hot weather in Ohio and Illinois than Massachusetts. The summers are far longer, and consequently the facility for crops which, like corn, demand heat, is far better. Our climate is also drier, as is shown by many circumstances, and corn can of course be planted thicker. The *soil* is also *hotter*.—Mere richness—that is, such as is inferred from the amount of manure applied, determines nothing. A proper amount of heat in the soil is necessary to render the latent fertility available. That heat is secured us by the dark color of the soil, by the greater length of our summers, and the fervid nature of our suns. The level character of the land has much to do also in modifying our climate. We have no hills to serve as repositories of snow and ice, and shade the intervals. In Massachusetts there are places where the sun does not rise till noon, even if he gets a chance to look in all day. These hills continually cool the atmosphere, retard the spring, and hasten on the autumn. Here sun and wind have unobstructed sway, and they use their liberty to the fullest, as the brown visages of western people attest. We may be obliged to yield many things to Massachusetts, but we shall not yield in corn growing without an effort.

As to manner of measuring ground, we agree with the editor of the Plowman. Our own columns contain a record of a yield of corn equal to that above named: but we know nothing of the manner in which the ground was measured.

The following may throw some additional light on the subject discussed in our paper of Sept. 15, p 139, "On the use of litter &c., as a covering for grass lands."—*Ed. O. Cultivator.*

From the Plow, Loom and Anvil.

The True Source of the Fertilizing Power of Manures, or, the effect of Shade.

The following is that sort of communication which we take pleasure in spreading before inquiring readers, who pay to the journals they patronise, not the poor compliment of merely subscribing their names and paying (*which some forget to do!*) but that which is to every editor of true ambition much more gratifying, that of *reading and studying what he takes the trouble to furnish.* For ourselves, our humble aspiration has ever been, not so much to count the number of subscribers as to give in new ideas *subjects for thought* to those we have; for however slow we might be to imitate, who may not admire the pride of the French cook, who threw himself upon his sword because the fish for his royal master's dinner had been spoiled in the cooking?

We regard the following as, to a certain extent, original; and highly important in the practical uses that may be made of it. There is not an observant farmer, in the habit of noticing all he sees connected with his profession, but may remember some facts corroborative of Doctor Baldwin's theory. We remember, when a boy ourselves, delighting in assisting "the people" on Saturdays in the light work of hay-making, that the noble-minded and noble-hearted proprietor, who was truly a *father over all*, black and white, always made them select *poor* spots in a neighboring field on which to *cure and stack the hay*, and these spots, merely from the effect of the stacks having stood upon them, were sufficiently fertilized to bring heavy crops of corn and tobacco. Yes, *these are* the sort of communications that impart ideas that excite thinking, and that are well worth to the reader the annual price of the journals in which they are kindly permitted to appear:

Winchester, Virginia, August 25, 1848.

Dear Sir,—I submit for your consideration a few practical observations upon the subject of manures, or the aliment of plants, made during an attempt to renovate a large tract of impoverished land in this county. I consider the residue of putrefaction the only manure. All substances, animal, vegetable, and mineral, either liquid or solid, which are capable of undergoing the putrefactive fermentation, form, by chemical changes peculiar to that process, a fertilizing residue This residue is the *only* pabulum of plants. No substance whatsoever, not excepting animal excretions, can be properly considered a manure until it has been subjected to putrefaction. To perfect this, it is indispensable that most substances should be favorably located. Close, dark, cool, damp locations, with a slight contact of air, most favor it. Light, heat, much moisture, and a free circulation of air, retard, and in many cases entirely prevent, the putrefactive process. I believe that the quality of the manure does not depend so much upon the chemical composition of the substances subjected to putrefaction, as it does upon the manner of perfecting that process. Manure made in vaults is admitted to be the best, and manure in stables better than that of barn-yards. Straw, which has remained in vaults or ice-houses one winter, when plowed under in spring, proves to be very valuable manure; taken from the rick it is no manure. The earth itself is capable of being converted into the best manure. If densely shaded, it will undergo chemical changes, apparently similar to those which vegetable and animal matters do when they are converted into manure; namely, it is changed in color, consistence, and fertilizing qualities. This fertilized earth is known as vegetable mould, or virgin earth, to be the best of all manures. It has hitherto been considered the residue of vegetable decomposition. I furnished you with the facts in June last, which convinced me that this definition was erroneous. I now wish to direct your attention to a few additional facts. Vegetable matters upon the earth's surface exposed to a free circulation of air, appear to be decomposed by a different chemical process, termed mouldering, which forms a trifling carbonized residue *destitute* of fertilizing qualities. And this is the case, also, when plowed under and deprived of contact with the atmosphere. Unless they be previously staurated with water, or lime be added, they do not undergo the putrefactive fermentation; but by mouldering become useless, if not pernicious, to after vegetation. The astonishing fertilizing effect of vegetable matters, when thickly covering the surface of the earth for a length of time, cannot be accounted for by their decomposition, for the quantity of the residue of clover, leaves, or straw, would not be sufficient, even if it were always equal in virtue to the best Peruvian guano. Straw spread thickly upon the poorest land—"land completely exhausted of alkalies"—will enrich it by the time it becomes decomposed; ten times the quantity plowed under will produce no perceptible benefit. If the manure of straw be owing to the six per cent. of phosphate of lime which it contains, why is it that sixty per cent. placed in the earth imparts no fertility to it? But that the fertility of the earth is not attributable to the decomposition of the straw, is proved by the fact, that any substance incapable of decomposition will produce precisely the same effect. I do not entertain a doubt that the wonderful fertilizing effect of all substances covering the surface of the earth for some time, is to be attributed to shade and shade *only*, and that the degree of fertility imparted to the soil may always be estimated by the density and duration of the shade. That shade is a most powerful and efficient agent, is exemplified by the rapid destruction of the timbers and floors of buildings without cellars, when the precaution of preserving ventilation beneath has been neglected. That it can be most profitably employed by the farmer in fertilizing the surface of the earth, I know from experience; for lands densely shaded one year, *with any substance whatever*, will always prove to be more durably enriched than lands well manured. Any number of acres may be rendered productive by it [without labor or expense] in as short a time as it usually takes to prepare manure and apply it to a few acres. No method which has hitherto been suggested for the renovation of large tracts of wornout land is so practicable, cheap, and effective.

Yours, with great respect,

Robert T. Baldwin.

Importance of Good Seed.

No one who has attentively examined a growing crop, can have failed to notice the difference in the vigor of different plants on the same square foot of surface. Some will start with a full broad leaf of a dark green color; others with a narrow one of a pale green or yellow and sickly hue. During the early period in the growth of these plants, the difference will increase, and a large full head will crown the one, while a short shrivelled one will be all that can be yielded by the other. For this difference there may be many causes. I think it better to confine the examination to the early period in the growth of the plant. After it is a few inches high, causes, obvious, yet entirely beyond our control, will continue and increase the difference. The powers of life in one, being in greater activity, and more fully developed, its vessels are sent out on longer excursions, and nourishment gathered from a greater distance, even from the very threshold of its neighbor's dwelling. Like the stronger animals, it not only takes the first and the last piece, but the best of all the pieces. Not satisfied with the robbery below the surface of the ground, it extends its broad leaves to the sun, and makes the first use of the light and heat, transmitting to its weak neighbor what remains; and from the dews and rains its own water casks must first be filled, however thirsty its feeble companion may be. Of the early causes, imperfect tillage, undoubtedly, has much effect. One kernel may be half covered, upon a bunch of grass sods; another buried under the same turf below the full influence of light and heat, while a third is placed at a suitable depth in mellow earth. This is often more strikingly exhibited in buckwheat, a crop for which mellow ground in ordinary cases is indispensable. If the ground is plowed in large furrows and sown without previous harrowing, as many are in the habit of doing, no inconsiderable part of the seed will fall so low, and be buried by the harrow so amply, that a late and sickly dwarf, at the feet of its more fortunate neighbor, will be all that can be expected.

But the cause to which I must more particularly call attention at this time, is a difference in the seed sown. In my neighborhood, great pains are taken by farmers and gardeners to secure good seed. I speak not now of *clean seed*; not of sowing a mixture of rye, chess, cockle, charlock, red root, tares, dock, southern plantain, and Canada thistles, and calling it wheat, but of seed, the individual grains of which shall be full and sound, ripe and fat. An excellent farmer taught me, while yet in early boyhood, that *seed-corn* should be selected in the field, and only the long, full ripe ears be saved; and other things being equal, they should be selected where two ears grow upon one stalk. This I suppose is in accordance with the practice of all careful farmers. If this selection is made before the husk is changed by frost, the earliest ears are easily distinguished. They should be braided by the husk in bunches of convenient size, and hung up where the possibility of heating or moulding is out of the question. By this course I am satisfied that not only vegetation, and a fuller and more thrifty blade is insured, but the best kinds may be made better, and foreign varieties be acclimated, and perhaps some of them made valuable.

Let those who raise seed for sale answer for themselves, but sure I am, that no sensible man would think of saving, *for his own use*, the seeds of a small insipid melon, or of a thin fleshed, watery, coarse grained pumpkin or squash, although he might be confident they were fully ripe, and would in all probability vegetate.

The short, yet massive "cabbage turnip," which produces a large, compact head, is selected to furnish seed for another season. Such beets, and carrots, and turnips, as you would wish your future crop to be, are to be put out for seed, and the product of the largest branches and fullest umbels only should be saved. For early use, the short cucumber, growing near the root, should be saved for seed. In the latter variety for pickling, if one gives early indications of unusual straightness, length, and thrift, a stake is put by it, and it becomes forbidden fruit.

A gentleman of my acquaintance, a merchant in the country, once mentioned to me a circumstance in point. Having just received a box of seeds from a family, celebrated the world over for their garden seeds, he asked the individual who brought them to furnish him, as a personal favor, some cucumber seeds for his own garden. He was reminded that the box just opened contained an abundance of the article. The merchant replied, "Friend, I want a few of those seeds you have saved for your own garden." A few days after a little package of seeds was received, which the merchant assured me was of more worth, five times, the nominal value of ordinary seeds; each seed produced a vigorous, broad-leaved plant, leaving nothing to be desired, either in the rapidity of its growth, or in the quantity or quality of its productions.

In crops cultivated during their growth, all feeble stalks should usually be removed, at least when the numbers of vigorous ones will admit of that disposition. When pumpkins are cultivated with corn, from one-third to two-thirds of the vines may be pulled up at the last hoeing, or soon after, and consigned to the hog pen with decided advantage. They will show by that time that a green pumpkin, too small for a foot-ball, is all that is to be expected from them. But although the subject is so important in regard to the seeds which have been mentioned, I know not why it is not equally so in reference to the kinds of grain, &c, which in this country are almost universally sown broad cast, and yet, so far as I know, but little has been written or said on that part of the subject. I have even heard farmers object to sowing wheat with a large, full berry, because it would take more in measure, for the same quantity of ground, than of a sample of the small-berried, shriveled kind. They

said that shrunk wheat would "come up," and if the berry was shriveled to half the full size, half the expense of seed would be saved. If there are but few who would attempt to speculate by exchanging full, well fed seed, for a poor, half-starved specimen, then am I fearful multitudes who would not take the trouble of exchanging the poor for that which was better, paying a little difference. But in the best specimens there will be many small, imperfect grains. The cause mentioned in the early part of this article will account for some of them. In oats, every individual stock will produce grain, differing widely in their size and weight. Some of the branchlets of the panicle will put out later, and produce inferior kernels. The same is emphatically true with buckwheat. The small kernels of any of the grains, with those broken by any cause, would be of value as food for animals, but if some, in connection with the full kernels, they would do little more than shade the ground, and take some nourishment which would otherwise go to perfect more fully the fruit of the other stalks. But here some one may ask, how is the separation of the large from the small, the fat from the lean kernels, to be effected? Very readily by a good set of sieves or screens. In addition to those belonging to your fanning mill, let others be prepared of the same size and form, from wire cloth of the different textures you desire. The cost will not be great. They will be extra sizes for your mill, and will be worth twice their cost for this purpose. Then make of firm, light boards, the sides and ends of a box, which will just admit one of these sieves Attach to the inside of your box some little support near the lower edge for the screen to rest upon, and you will have at command as many screens as you have sieves, both proper and extra to your fanning mill. One of them, of suitable fineness, will take from your oats all small or broken grains, and all cockle, dock, and thistles, &c., which you can consign to your cauldron, and after being boiled thoroughly, they will hurt neither your hogs or your land, and a richer harvest of better grain will richly reward you for all your care and expense.

S. REED.

Dwight Place, Richmond, 1848.

—*Jour. of Ag. and Science.*

Public Schools of Columbus.

Statistics for the quarter ending on the 5th of October instant. The number of Teachers employed, including the Surperintendent, was 18, the number of Schools taught 17; including the High School, three Grammar, five Secondary, six Primary and two German Schools.

The whole nnmber of Scholars registered in all the Schools during the quarter was:	- -	1,412
The number transferred from one School to another,	- - - - - -	56
Actual number of different Scholars registered,		1,356
Average number connected with the Schools daily,	- - - - - -	959
" in daily attendance in all the Schools,		855
" " " " per School,		5—33
" " in the Schools in the north dist.,		52
" " " " middle "		49
" " " " south "		53
" " " " High School,		30
" " " Grammar Schools,		43
" " " Secondary, "		47
" " " Primary, "		56
" " " German, "		60

The whole sum paid for supervision and instruction in all the Schools, was $1,221 25; being an average of $1 40 per Scholar, and exclusive of the High School, $1 12 per Scholar; varying as follows: 70 cents in the Primary, 88 cents in the German, $1 06 in the Secondary, and $2 32 in the Grammer Schools.

A. D. LORD, *Superintendent.*

Columbus, Oct. 15, '48.

Patent Business--Dr. Clinton.

We perceive by our friend Knight's advertisement, (see last page) that he has procured the services of Dr. Clinton, (late, and several years past a member of the scientific and examining corps of the Patent Office, at Washington,) as a partner in his business as Patent Agent and Attorney. Western Inventors should congratulate themselves upon this accession to their central city, where they can now get such competent and speedy aid in the complex, nice, and delicate points of a Patent claim, hitherto attended (in the west especially,) with so much difficulty. The industrial interests of the west involve millions of capital, and we hope western editors will give this notice of a great accession to our scientific facilities a wide and general circulation. Further east than Cincinnati our inventing citizens need not now go to have their business transacted. This will save them 50 per cent. of their expenses. We would recommend inventors in the west to call on Messrs. Knight & Clinton if they desire correct information in regard to Patents. We can testify to the knowledge of the Doctor. He has a wide spread, high reputation in the east. Mr. Knight is a young gentleman of rare attainments, and makes drawings particularly beautiful and correct.—*Cin Gazette.*

GOOD THINGS.—Good fences, good barns, good farmhouses, good stock, and good orchards.

OHIO CULTIVATOR.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, OCTOBER 15, 1848.

THE EDITOR'S health has improved since last number, but he is still unable to endure much confinement at writing—hence some matters that need attention are still delayed.

SEVERE DROUGHT.—No rain of any account has fallen in this vicinity for the past two months, and none at all for the past month. The ground is extremly dry and the roads so dusty as to make traveling very unpleasant. Wheat sowing was performed with much difficulty, and none but that sown very early has come up. It is feared by some that the fly will do much damage, but we hope the frosty nights will prevent that evil. Corn has generally ripened well and is a good crop. Fall pasturage is becoming very scant, owing to the drought.

P. S. Fine rain to-day—15th.

NOTICES OF COUNTY FAIRS, in our next. We find the reports thus far more favorable than we anticipated considering the excitement of the elections.

THE QUEEN CITY.—It will be seen that at the late Convention of Fruit growers and Nurserymen, held in this city, it was resolved to hold the Fruit Convention next year in Cicinnati. Will the horticulturists of that region second the motion; and what will the fruit growers of the river counties in Indiana, Kentucky and Virginia say?—and what excuse will our friends in Old Washington and Lawrence counties have for not attending at that time?

It is also proposed to hold a grand District Agricultural Fair, at Cincinnati next fall, under the direction of the State Board of Agriculture, what say the Hamilton county agricultural society, and the mechanics of the city?

The Fair at Zanesville, (19th and 20th) promises to be one of the best in the State.

That Devon Calf, advertised to be sold at Zanesville on 19th, by Mr. Dillon, we are informed by a disinterested judge, is a very beautiful animal.

The Sale of Stock, by Mr. Pierce, at South Charleston, on 18th, should not be forgotten, by those interested.—We know the cattle are good.

MR. BUTTON'S SHEEP.--A mistake occurred in our last paper, among the premiums to Ohio, awarded at the Buffalo Fair, we said, "to Chas. Button of Portage, for best Merino Buck, 1 year old *Diploma*." It should read $10 and diploma.—See advertisement.

Agricultural Fairs in Ohio for 1848.

First District Fair, at	Xenia,	September,	20 and 21.
Hamilton County,	Carthage,	"	29 and 30.
Ross County,	Chillicothe,	"	28 and 29.
Washington County,	Marietta,	"	28.
Muskingum County,	Zanesville,	Oct.	19 and 20.
Mahoning County,	Canfield,	"	3 and 4.
Trumbull County,	Warren,	Sept.	20 and 21.
Clermont, (Franklin tp.)	Franklin school house		Sept. 30
Huron and Erie,	Norwalk,	Oct.	12.
Geauga County,	Chardon,	Sept.	28 and 29.
Guernsey County,	Cambridge,	Oct.	19 and 20.
Licking County,	Newark,	Oct.	11 and 12.
Clark and Madison,	London,	Oct.	12 and 13.
Lorain County,	Elyria,	Oct.	5.
Portage County,	Ravenna,	Sept.	27 and 28.

The Cuyahoga County Agricultural Society holds its annual Fair at Cleveland, on 19th and 20th inst.

The Guernsey County fair has been postponed to the 26th and 27th inst, at Cambridge.

The Harrison County Agriculturul Society, holds its annual Fair at Cadiz, on the 26th inst. The annual meeting for election of officers &c., on the 27th.

Delaware County, was omitted in our list, because notice of time and place was not sent us—or if a paper was sent it was not marked as we requested. The Fair was held at Delaware, we are informed, on 3d inst.

Ohio State Board of Agriculture.

PROCEEDINGS OF MEETING AT XENIA, SEPT. 21ST.

Present, Allen Trimble, Arthur Watts, A. E. Strickle, Darius Lapham, Isaac Moore and M. B Bateham.

A full and free discussion was had on the subject of District and State Agricultural exhibitions—some of the members expressing their belief that the time has come when the State of Ohio should have its grand agricultural exhibition; others, and the greater number, believed that it would be better to defer the attempt at holding a State Fair until greater facilities for travel and transportation have been constructed through the centre of the State; and till the farmers more generally have become enlisted in the work of agricultural improvement.

It was then proposed to appoint the first District fair to be held at Cincinnati next year, if the friends of agriculture and the mechanic arts in that region manifest a disposition to co-operate; and that a similar District Fair be held at Cleveland, if the people of that part of the State seem to desire it. This proposition was discussed and favorably entertained by the Board, but as the annual meeting in December was thought to be the proper time for action on the subject, it was postponed for further consideration at that time

The subject of the *Annual Report* was then taken up, and it was recommended that in addition to the usual returns from the counties, measures should be taken to obtain statistical and practical essays from competent persons, relating to the principal productions of Ohio, and suggestions in regard to the improvement of our agriculture; the writers to be paid such compensations as may be deemed proper, out of the funds of the Board.

This proposition was favorably regarded by all the members present, and after some discussion it was resolved that the president and secretary be authorized and requested to procure such statistics and other information as they may deem proper for embodying in the next annual Report of the Board, and use as much of the funds of the Board as may be necessary for that purpose.

The Secretary presented to the Board the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society for the year 1847, (a large and handsome volume) received from Hon. B. P. JOHNSON, secretary of that society; whereupon it was voted, that the thanks of the Board be tendered to the New York Society, through Mr. Johnson, its Secretary.

After auditing several accounts the Board *adjourned.*

THE CIRCULARS TO COUNTIES, for obtaining information and statistics for the annual Report of the State Board of Agriculture will be issued by the Secretary, during the present month; and letters will be addressed to individuals soliciting communications on particular subjects, for the same purpose.

County Agricultural Societies are reminded that it is their duty, each to appoint one delegate to the annual meeting of the State Board, which occurs on the first Wednesday after the assembling of the Legislature, namely, the 6th of December next; at which time, (besides other business to be transacted) five new members of the Board are to be elected, in place of Messrs. Watts, Codding, Kirtland, Moore and Bateham, whose term of service will expire on that day.

Licking County Agricultural Fair.

We attended the first annual Fair of the Licking county agricultural Society on the 11th and 12th inst. The show of Stock was pretty fair—we might say, very good, considering the infant state of the Society, and the amount of apathy and prejudice that still exists among the farmers of that county; and also the fact that Licking is more a grain producing than a stock county. The number of cattle and horses on the ground was quite respectable; only a few of the *cattle* were thorough bred, or in any way very remarkable—indeed there is room for great im-

provement here—and the *horses*, especially stallions, were by no means of superior quality—showing clearly that in this class of stock there is great need of improvement.—It is truly surprising that so many of the farmers of Ohio should be content to breed and rear such an inferior grade of horses, either for their own use or for sale, when it would cost but little if any more to rear those worth double their value.

Of *hogs* there were none exhibited worth noticing, excepting one very beautiful young pig of the Irish Grazier breed, belonging to Mr. Sprague, of Newark.

Of *Sheep* there was a very good, though not very numerous display. The number of flocks of fine sheep in Licking county has been much increased within four or five years. Mr. Miller was there with a wagon load of very fine and vigorous sheep—showing that he has suffered no deterioration of his excellent flock. Mr H. C Taylor (of Granville) also had very good specimens present, and we afterwards saw his flock at home, he has greatly improved his flock within two years, by judicious purchases from Mr. T. Noble of Stark county and others. Mr. Kellar also had excellent fine sheep; and so did several other persons. There were also some good specimens of long wooled (Leicester) sheep, though not of the most improved variety.

The show of domestic articles, dairy products, implements, &c., was very poor indeed—we might say a failure. This was partly owing to the court being in session, so that the court house could not be had for the exhibition; and there being no other suitable room. But we are convinced the failure was more owing to the neglect of the proper officers to publish and circulate notices of the time and place of holding the different parts of the show. This matter has been overlooked at several shows in the State this year, and the effect is always very injurious to the interests of the society. For instance, it was only stated that the exhibition would be "at Newark on 11th and 12th of October;" and on arriving at Newark, nobody seemed to know whether domestic goods as well as cattle were to be exhibited the first day, nor at what place in or out of the village the cattle or goods where to be shown! Hence the whole affair was confused and unsatisfactory. This we doubt not will all be remedied next year; and from the feelings expressed by many who were present we believe that Licking county will then produce one of the best shows in the State.

We were glad to find that the premiums were all paid in appropriate books or silver ware, instead of money.—An address was expected from Professor Thrall, of Gambier, but he not being present, remarks were made by Mr. Dille and by Mr. Bateham.

We hope to see a delegation from Licking, at the Muskingum Fair on 19th and 20th inst.—such interchanges are always plesant and useful, and should be more generally practised in Ohio.

Domestic Fish Ponds.

In many parts of Ohio good fresh fish, is a very rare and desirable luxury; and we have often wondered that so few if any attempts have been made to produce the article by means of domestic fish ponds, in places where springs and suitable streams abound. Pehaps, however, there may be some instances where this practice is successfully pursued; if so, we should be much gratified to receive a communication on the subject from the proprietors. The only domestic fish pond we remember to have seen in the State, is a small one on the beautiful grounds of Mr. Hoffner, near Cincinnati, which is finely stocked with *gold fish*. These appear as healthy and prolific as in their native climate, and form a most attractive feature of his pleasure grounds. We should be pleased to learn from Mr. H. whether any particular care is betowed on them in winter; and also, whether feeding is necessary.

The following is from the Maine Farmer.

Domestic Fish Ponds.—This is a subject not much thought of in Maine. The streams and ponds and lakes are so abundant and well stored with fish, that most people think it better to let them be, and go or send a hand to catch them from their natural haunts, than to be at the expense and trouble of making ponds of reservoirs, and placing fish in them in order to have them "*handy*" as a Yankee would say, when needed. These ponds, however, may be in many situations, very easily constructed.—For instance, where a brook or larger stream runs through a person's premises, a reservoir might be made on one side and the waters conducted through it, or a section of the brook might be divided off by wires above and below so as to keep the fish within a certain portion of the stream where they could be taken with a net or tempted with the baited hook if sport was also desired as well as the fish.—There is one advantage in the artificial reservoirs over the ponds made by natural streams—the water is more easily commanded. It may be drawn off and the fish sorted out as is often done, the largest reserved for use and the smallest suffered to grow.

Fish may be fed and fattened as well as any other animal, and even trained so as to come at certain signals and receive their food. It is not long since that a paragraph went the rounds of the papers stating that a little girl in Hingham, Mass., had tamed a fish in a stream, by feeding it. The fish would come to her and suffer itself to be handled, (in the water of course,) and was growing finely by the good keeping it received from its little friend.

We have seen some ponds where trout were the only fish kept, and these were fed, from time to time, with grains, peas, worms, &c. Trout like clear water, and to have this, a current should be allowed to flow through.—Other fish, such as the *chub* or angling, pike, &c., do very well in more sluggish water, and if some of the acquatic weeds grow pretty freely in parts of it, it is better, as the little *periwinkles* or snails adhere to them and afford food for them.

Some of our readers may think that it would be time and labor thrown away for a farmer to make him a fish pond, even if he had a first-rate chance, but we assure them that we know of two or three farmers who have taken the trouble to make and stock a domestic fish pond near their premises, and that they are a source of much comfort and convenience to them. Why should not a farmer occasionally have a fresh trout of his own raising, as well as a chicken or a lamb?—*Maine Farmer.*

Grafting the Gooseberry.

A new remedy for Mildew.—David Willee, Jr., of Carlisle, Pa., has published a communication in the Genessee Farmer, giving his mode of managing the gooseberry so as to avoid the effects of mildew. He says, "my mode is to graft them on the yellow flowering currant, which is so plenty in some gardens, and which might be put to very profitable use in the line of cultivating this fine fruit, by which means I raise them as perfect as fruit can be, and even in very unfavorable situations."

The yellow flowering or Missouri currant is found in many grounds in this State; and we think the above suggestion worthy of trial—not only on that particular shrub, but on the several species of wild currant and gooseberry that are found in our woods. We have not full faith in the process as a remedy for mildew, however.

Rohan Potatoes.

Mr. Editor.—In answer to the inquiries about Rohan Potatoes, I would state, that I have cultivated them for several years, and have come to the conclusion that there is no peculiar excellency about them; they are only about second or third rate for cooking, and being full of deeply sunken eyes they are very troublesome to pare, hence I often hear it said "I do wish you would quit raising these ugly potatoes, a body can't pare them without cutting them half away, or else spend more time than they are worth in gouging out their eyes."—As to food for stock, I prefer the Merinoes, or long-johns as some call them; they will produce more from the same quantity of land, are smoother and freer from earth when dug, and when kept over winter they are better for cooking than the Rohans. In regard to their liability to rot I think there is little if any difference in the two kinds. In 1845 I raised about fifty bushels of each, and buried them about the middle of October—about two weeks afterwards I examined them and found them about half rotted; I then sorted and reburied them, and in the spring found the remainder about half-rotted, each of the two kinds about alike. Since then my practice has been to plant early, dig early, and haul to the barn and let them dry till cold weather and then bury, and I have lost none. The kinds most liable to rot here are the Meshanocks and Pink-eyes; and the kinds freest from that disease, are the Apple Potatoe and Mackinaw blue. The latter is a roundish smooth potatoe of a blueish purple color, with some white spots on them—the Apple Potatoe is yellow inside and the Mackinaw blues are white. Other varieties I have not tested.

Timothy Hanking.

Neptune, Mercer County, Ohio, Oct. 9. 1848.

To manage a sullen Horse. If a horse lies down, and will not get up, drive a stake in the ground and fasten him down for ten or twelve hours; then loosen him, work him for about an hour, water and feed him, and he will "know better next time." Or apply your hands to the nostrils and stop his breath, and he will soon start.

Men are frequently like tea—the real strength and goodness is not properly drawn out of them, till they have been, for a short time, in hot water.

☞ The following is from the pen of J. J. Thomas, who was one of the most active members of the fruit committee, at the Pomological Convention at Buffalo:

From the Albany Cultivator.

Pomological Convention at Buffalo.

This convention, called together through the exertions of the officers of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, and of the Horticultural Society of Buffalo, assembled on the first ultimo, and extended its sessions through the 2d and 4th, occupying three days in all. Fear had been entertained that at so early a season, but few fruits could be collected; a large number, however, were received from several different states, and among them many varieties ripening so early as to be usually excluded from our autumnal exhibitions. In other respects, the convention may be regarded as a very successful effort, and has resulted in the interchange of much valuable information.

Among the principal contributors were noticed the following:—Robert, Manning, Salem, Mass.; Charles Downing, and A. J. Downing, Newburgh, N. Y.; F. W. Hayes, Newark, and Thomas Hancock, Burlington, N. J.; David Thomas, Aurora, W. R. Smith Macedon, and Ellwanger, Barry & Rowe, and Bissel, Hooker & Sloane, Rochester, Benj. Hodge, and A. Bryant & Sons, Buffalo, N. Y.; F. R. Elliott, Cleveland, Ohio; George Andrews, Montreal; James Dougall, Amhersburgh, C. W.; A. C. Hubbard Detroit; all of whom presented large and interesting collections. Charles Hamilton, of Canterbury, Orange county, N. Y., sent to the convention a large and very fine assortment of plums; and several other smaller collections were received, among which were those of J. W. Bailey, of Plattsburgh; L. F. Allen, Black Rock; N. Goodsell, Greece, N. Y., and others. The most interesting and important varieties in these collections, were taken up, and occupied the time of the convention during its several sittings.

The number of delegates in attendance was between fifty and sixty,—from the states of Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, New-York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiania, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Missouri, and from the two provinces of Canada—fourteen states and provinces in all. The convention was organized by the appointment of David Thomas, of Aurora, N. Y., as President; three secretaries and ten Vice-Presidents, from as many different states and provinces. A set of rules, for the government of its deliberations, was adopted by the convention, the substance of which was as follows:—The most perishable fruits to be examined first, and to be brought to the notice of the convention by a committee appointed for that purpose—one variety to be examined at a time, and comparisons made from the different specimens present;—members allowed to state facts only in the briefest manner. Discussions on special subjects to be allowed during evenings and intervals, at which no one to speak more than ten minutes, nor twice on the same subject. The pomological rules adopted by the New York State Agricultural Society, were also adopted by the Convention. Committees were subsequently appointed to examine and report on the seedling or new fruits present.

Among the more active members who participated in the discussions, were Thomas Hancock and F. W. Hayes, N. J.; Wm. R. Prince, Flushing; Charles Downing, Newburgh; Dr. H. Wendell, Albany; P. Barry, J. W. Bissell, and N. Goodsell, Rochester; B. Hodge and W. R. Coppock, Buffalo; J. J. Thomas, Macedon; L. F. Allen, Black Rock; all in New York; F. R. Elliott, Cleveland, and H. H. Coit, Euclid, Ohio; J. D. G. Nelson, Fort Wayne, Indiana: J. C. Holmes, Detroit, A. T. Prouty, Kalamazoo, Mich.; J. A. Kennicott, Chicago, Ill.; Thomas Allen, St. Louis, Mo.; C. Beadle, St. Catherines, and James Dougall, Amherstburgh, C. W.

With a single exception of a fruit convention held last year at Columbus, for the State of Ohio only, this appears to be the first attempt of the kind ever made in this country. It was of course to be expected that in so untrodden a path, some time would be consumed in settling preliminaries, and in adopting the best mode of action.—Difficulties existed, perhaps inseparably connected with a convention of this nature, which occasioned some confusion, and which are well worthy the attention of those having the control of future meetings of this kind. In all deliberative bodies, it is absolutely essential to preserve order. But specimens must be selected from large collections while the discussions are going on—and if members are to speak *understandingly* of these, they must "*cut and try.*" If fifty delegates are present, it evidently becomes a matter of extreme difficulty to prevent noise and confusion—more especially if they give way to the strong temptation to converse with each other, insteap of always addressing the chair. We know of but one way to prevent effectually this evil, where the convention may consist of more than ten or twelve persons, although an energetic chairman, by constant effort, may do much to lessen it. This is, to devote one room to the exhibition of the fruits, and another to the use of the delegates. The fruit room, during the hours of session, only to be entered by a committee of selection, who are to be well acquainted with what is on hand, and single varieties, selected from all the different collections when they are to be found, presented at a time to the con-

vention. The specimens, if practicable, should be sufficiently numerous to enable each member to taste, and should be placed on accessible tables for this purpose. No provision of this kind was made at Buffalo, and the consequence was, that those who had loud and clear voices usually made themselves heard by the reporter, even at those more noisy periods when a dozen were engaged in examinations and private conversations at once. The discussions, and statements of facts, were, to fruit cultivators, in the highest degree interesting. Some of the conclusions reached we give below:—

PEACHES.

Early Barnard.—A good, very hardy, and productive peach, known in many parts of Western New York under the name of Yellow Alberge, and in some instances as Yellow Rareripe, but quite distinct from either, and much superior to the European Alberge.

Cooledge's Favorite. Late specimens were presented, and it was decided by all who are acquainted with it, to be first rate in quality.

Jaques' Rareripe, (one of the largest yellow peaches known,) was unanimously recommended as "a fine large Early peach, but not of the highest quality in flavor."—Nearly the same verdict was given in relation to

Crawford's Early, a remarkably showy variety, specimens of which were presented measuring nine and a half inches in circumference, with a statement by F. R. Elliott, of Cleveland, that he had measured some the present season *eleven inches* in circumference.

Haine's Early Red, from different sources was considered by a part of the delegates, as identical with the *Honest John,* or *Large Early York* of New Jersey, while others regarded it as distinct; but all voted it a first rate variety.

The *Early Malden* peach, a new seedling, was presented by James Dougall, of Amherstburgh, C. W., having been kept two weeks in ice. It promises to be an acquisition of the highest value. It is of good size, red, very free from the stone, of excellent flavor, the leaves glandular, and it ripens about the time of the serrated Early York and Early Tillotson. It has borne three years.

The *Snow peach* was decided to be a first rate variety for preserving, but the convention was divided as to its other merits, some regarding it as first rate and others as only second rate, for the table.

The *White Imperial,* received a unanimous vote, as the *Oldmixen free* and the *Large Early York,* of N. J., fruits of the first quality.

The *Royal George* peach was decided to be unworthy of general cultivation, on account chiefly of the mildew of its leaves and branches.

NECTARINES.

James Dougall, C. W., presented specimens of the *Large Early Violet* nectarine, a rare variety, distinguished by its superior size from the common Early Violet, and of fine quality.

The *Downton* nectarine, from A. J. Downing, which has so high a reputation for excellence, proved to be of the very highest character.

PEARS.

The following eight varieties received the unanimous vote of the convention as pears of the first quality, and worthy of general cultivation:

Dearborn's Seedling,	*Bartlett,*
Tyron,	*Louise Bonne of Jersey.*
Rostiezer,	*Beuerre d'Aremberg.*
Golden Bilboa,	*Glout Morceau.*

Dearborn's Seedling was commended, not only on account of its high flavor, but for its uniform excellence in all places and under all circumstances, although its quality is diminished when it overbears, to which it is liable.

The Tyron, fine specimens of which were sent to the convention by W. R. Smith, of Macedon, N. Y., was placed among the best summer pears. It was decided by the Philadelphia Horticultural Society, to be superior to Dearborn's Seedling.

Stevens' Genesee was pronounced, nearly unanimously, to be *among* the first rate pears;

Beurre d'Aumalis, as second rate in flavor, but worthy of cultivation in large collections on account of its size, fairness, productiveness, and free growth;

The *Andrews,* as nearly first rate;

The *Marie Louise,* for general cultivation, but not unanimously;

The *Cushing,* as second rate;

The *Bezi de la Motte,* and *Julienne,* as unworthy of general cultivation.

The *Washington,* although according to the statement of Thomas Hancock, decided at Philadelphia to be superior to Dearborn's Seedling, was pronounced by the convention to be not fully first rate.

The *Bloodgood* was voted to be one of the best summer pears. On light soils it was found to be invariably fine, but several statements were made to the convention where its flavor had proved inferior on heavy soils, while others were given, where on such soils it had been excellent.

The *Brown Beurre* and *Orange Bergamot* were pronounced unworthy of cultivation.

A specimen was presented by Dr. H. Wendell, of Albany, which excited great interest, and which was believed to be the genuine BEURRE SPENCE. The tree had been received as such, four years ago, from Thomas Rivers, of Sawbridgeworth, England; the fruit was wholly different from any other variety known, and although unripe, had a very promising appearace.

PLUMS.

The following varieties of the plum were decided to be first rate:—

Purple Favorite,	*Jefferson,*
Red Gage,	*Bleeker's Gage,*
Washington,	*Red Diaper,*
Green Gage,	*Coe's Golden Drop,*
Imperial Gage,	

La Royal and *Smith's Orleans,* were recommended as nearly first rate. *White Magnum Bonum* or *Yellow Egg,* first rate for the kitchen, and third rate as a table fruit.—*Diamond,* as third rate.

[A notice of the examination of apples we are compelled to defer till next number.]

In the evening of the last day of the convention, an address was given before the Buffalo Horticultural Society and the delegates in attendance, by DAVID THOMAS, President of the convention. It was deeply interesting and of a highly practical nature, richly illustrated from the mature observations and long experience of the speaker. As this address is to be published, we may notice it more fully on a future occasion.

The following evening, a large audience assembled to hear an address on Horticulture from Gen. DEARBORN, of Massachusetts, formerly President of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. The address was wholly extemporaneous, and was what was to be expected from his distinguished talents and eloquence. The progress of Society, from its rudest forms and in the earliest ages, through the various gradations to the more refined civilization, was vividly traced; the early history of this progress in our own country was given; a picture of Buffalo was presented, as it was when visited by the speaker thirty-five years ago, when only *ten* buildings stood on the ground now occupied by 45 thousand inhabitants, and its entire commerce consisting of three batteaux; the rapid progress of horticulture of late years was shown, and the fact stated that more had been attained during the last five years, than in all the previous period since the settlement of the country. At Boston, where within the age of middle-aged men, the more common apples, pears and plums, were only raised, there are now establishments embracing more than a thousand different bearing varieties, and which send their products into all the different states of the Union, and to nearly every country of Europe. The exalted nature of horticultural pursuits, and the high perfection of civilization indicated by their cultivation, were strongly exhibited, with its influence in promoting the arts of peace, domestic enjoyment, and freedom.

On Fattening Sheep.

As some of our readers we know are desirous of fattening a portion of their flocks for the use of the butchers this fall, we copy the following remarks from the new work on Sheep husbandry, by Mr. Canfield, referred to in our last.

FATTENING.

Whether sheep are to be fattened in summer or in winter, it is ever desirable that they should have been well kept for some considerable time before rapid fattening is attempted. Their digestive organs will then be strong, and able to bear full feeding. Therefore, if any are quite thin in flesh, they should, at first, not be put into too rank pastures in summer, and in winter should not receive too much grain in beginning to feed them, lest they should be cloyed, in some measure, or should become diseased in consequence of excess of nutriment.

With these precautions, if it is intended to fatten them for the butcher, it is always an object to fatten them as fast as possible, if we wish to obtain the greatest quantity of flesh and fat, according to the amount of food consumed; for, regular daily rations of food are necessary to support life, and supply the natural waste of the body; and the sooner the flesh and fat accumulate to the desired quantity, the sooner, also, will this daily waste be brought to a close.

Therefore, in summer, the pasturage should be amply sufficient, so that they may be as quiet as they please, and not allowed to range over too large a surface, in order to fill themselves. And most special care should be used that they are frequently moved from field to field, or that a large range be provided for them, and all necessary condiments.

The digestive powers of young animals being weaker than those of animals which have arrived at maturity, such young animals should be fed more cautiously; and it takes a longer time to fatten them, as a portion of their nutriment is appropriated to the development of muscle or flesh.

In summer and fall, sheep may be fattened off most rapidly, and with least expense: good pasture and frequent changes of it, with suitable condiments, being sufficient for that purpose.

But it is sometimes an object to fatten them very rapidly in summer, and, also, to fatten off old sheep which cannot readily be fattened on mere pasture alone. In either case, the feeding of a moderate quantity of grain daily, will generally effect it very advantageously. One bushel of grain fed in summer, will make, as much fat as three or four fed in winter.

An experiment was made at Shrewsbury, in England, in fattening three sheep on peas, allowing them, at the same time, to run in pasture. They gained 59 lbs. in 21 days, being an average of nearly 10 ounces each day.—(A. Agriculturist, 1843.)

If the first quality of mutton is desired, sheep of the smaller breeds, and those which do not soonest come to maturity, should be selected for that purpose, and a large proportion of upland pasture should be provided for them. For though the quality of the mutton depends very much upon the breed of the sheep, the qualities of the food upon which they are fattened have also a powerful influence in determining the qualities of the mutton.

In fattening sheep to the best advantage in winter, it is necessary that they should have good shelters, and that these shelters should be often supplied with fresh litter, so as to make them quiet and comfortable; and, also, that proper allowances of food, water, and condiments should be regularly supplied to them.

The observations of Mr. Spooner will illustrate this subject as follows: "Quietude and warmth contribute greatly to the fattening process. This is a fact which has not only been developed by science, but proved by actual practice. The manner in which these agents operate, is simple, and easily explained. Motion increases respiration, and the excess of oxygen thus taken, requires an increased quantity of carbon, which would otherwise be expended in producing fat. So, likewise, *cold robs the system of animal heat;* to supply which, more oxygen and more carbon must be employed in extra combustion, to restore the diminution of temperature. Nature enforces the restoration of warmth, by causing cold to produce both hunger and a disposition for motion, supplying carbon by the gratification of the former, and oxygen by the indulgence of the latter. The above facts are illustrated by Lord Ducie:

"One hundred sheep were placed in a shed, and ate 20 lb. of Swedish turnips each, per day; whilst another hundred, in the open air, ate 25 lb. each, and at the end of a certain period, the former animals weighed each 30 lbs., more than the latter; plainly showing that, to a certain extent, *warmth is a substitute for food.* This was also proved, by the same nobleman, in other experiments, which also illustrated the effect of exercise.

No. 1. Five sheep were fed in the open air, between the 21st of November, and the 1st of December. They consumed 90 lbs. of food per day, the temperature being 44 deg; at the end of this time, they weighed 2 lbs. less, than when first exposed.

No. 2. Five sheep were placed under shelter, and allowed to run at a temperature of 49 deg.; they consumed at first 82 lbs. then 70 lbs. per day, and increased in weight 23 pounds.

No. 3. Five sheep were placed in the same shed, but not allowed any exercise; they ate at first 64 lbs., then 58 lbs., and increased in weight 30 lbs.

No. 4. Five sheep were kept in the dark, quiet and covered; they ate 35 lbs. per day, and increased in weight 8 lbs."

A similar experiment was tried by Mr. Childers, M. P. He states, that 80 Leicester sheep, in the open field, consumed 50 baskets of cut turnips per day, besides oil cake. On putting them in a shed, they were immediately able to consume only 30 baskets, and soon after but 25, being only one-half of the quantity required before; and yet they fattened as rapidly, as when eating the largest quantity."

From these experiments, it appears, that the least quantity of food, which is required for fattening, is, when animals are kept closely confined in warm shelters; and the greatest quantity, when running at large exposed to all weather. But, although animals will fatten faster for a certain time, without exercise than with it, if they are closely confined for any considerable time, and are at the same time full fed, they become, in some measure, feverish; the proportion of fat becomes too large, and the meat is not so palateable and healthy, as when they are allowed moderate exercise, in yards or small fields.

As to the kinds of food which may be used most advantageously in fattening, this will generally depend upon what is raised upon the farm, it being preferable, in most cases, to use the produce of the farm. Sheep prefer beans to almost any other grain; but neither beans or peas are so fattening, as some other grains; and are used most advantageously along with them. Beans, peas, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, &c., may be used along with Indian corn, or oil cake, or succulent food, making various changes and mixtures, in order to furnish the variety of food, which is so much relished by the sheep, and which should ever be attended to by the sheep fattener. This will prevent their being cloyed, and will hasten the fattening process. A variety of food, (says Mr. Spooner) operates like cookery in the human subject, enabling more sustenance to be taken.

The quantity of grain or succulent food, which it will be proper to feed, will depend upon the size, age and condition of the sheep, and judgment must be used, in ascer-

taining how much they can bear. Mr. Childers states that sheep (New Leicester) fed with the addition of half a pint of barley per sheep, per day; half a pound of linseed oil cake, with hay, and a constant supply of salt, became ready for the butcher in ten weeks; and gain of flesh and tallow, 33 lbs. to 40 lbs. per head. [One sheep gained 55 lbs. in 12 weeks.]

This experiment shows what is about the largest amount of grain which it is necessary or proper to feed to New Leicester sheep, at any time while fattening. The average weight of 40 New Leicester wethers before fattening, was found by Mr. Childers to be 128½ lbs. each. By weighing an average lot of any other kind of sheep, which are to be fattened, and by reference to the table of comparative nutriment of the different kinds of food a calculation may be readily made, as to the largest amount, which will be necessary for them, of any arcticle of food whatever.

When sheep are first put up for fattening, they should be sorted, when convenient, so as to put those of the same age, size, and condition, each by themselves, so that each may have a fair chance to obtain its portion of food, and may be fed the proper length of time.

They should be fed moderately at first, gradually increasing the quantity to the largest amount, and making the proper changes of food, so as not to cloy them, nor produce acute diseases of the head or intenstines, and never feeding so much as to scour them.

Sheep, when fattening, should not be fed oftener than three times a day, viz: morning, noon, and evening. In the intervals between feeding, they may fill themselves well, and will have time sufficient for rumination and digestion; these processes are interrupted by too frequent feeding. But they should be fed with regularity, both as to the quantity of food, and the time when it is given.—When convenient, they should have access to water at all times; otherwise, a full supply of it should be furnished to them immediately after they have consumed each foddering.

When sheep become extremely fat, whether purposely or not, it is generally expedient to slaughter them. Permitting animals to become alternately very fat and lean is injurious to all stock. Therefore, if animals are too strongly inclined to fatten at an age when wanted for breeding, their condition as to flesh should be regulated by the quantity and quality of their food or pasture.

The Circle of Fruits.

Are our farmers,—or such of them as have abundant means for this purpose,—supplied with good fruit during the whole twelve months? Is there any one commodity, more calculated to increase the pleasures of the country, and to render home attactive to young people, than fine, ripe, fresh fruit, of one's own raising the entire season?

Many have adopted a very erroneous opinion, and suppose the "fruit season" to be a small portion of the year. A good selection would extend the period of actual bearing and ripening in the open air, to nearly six months; and such kinds as possess keeping properties, if in sufficient quantity, would supply the other six. The first fruits ripen, even so far north as Albany and Rochester, by the first day of summer, and two weeks earlier at Philadelphia and New-York. Three varieties of the cherry—the Early May, May Bigarreau, and Early Purple Guigne,—mature simultaneously with the Duke of Kent and Large Early Scarlet Strawberries; a host of other fine varieties of both kinds immediately succeed them. Currants and Raspberries soon join the list, the Primordian Plum, the Amire Joannet and Madeline Pears, and several delicious Apricots are on hand by wheat harvest; after which the profusion of peaches, pears, apples, plums, grapes, &c., furnish the richest supplies through autumn. Grapes and pears may be kept till spring, and apples till the succeeding summer. But, let it be remembered, that if the *long-keepers* are not laid in in very liberal quantities, the stores will soon be exhausted. The loss by unavoidable decay, as well as by consumption, must be allowed for. An excellent mode of keeping winter and spring apples, in the absence of a better, was this:—"Lock them up in a cool, dry cellar, and hide the key." The error was in the limited supply; its correction, is to supersede the necessity by an abundant store. Every cultivator, therefore, while he plants liberally of the earliest ripeneng varieties, must plant still more liberally of long keepers; for while the former are soon succeeded by others, the latter must extend their benefits through a long and otherwise dreary period.—*Albany Cultivator.*

To accustom a Horse to the use of a Gun, Umbrella, &c. Commence showing your friendship by rubbing the horse's face with your hand, then snap and explode percussion caps with a pistol; let the horse frequently smell the powder and smoke, then you fire small reports, until fear is removed, then overhead and behind the horse, until all is free. If you have a very wild horse, place him in a stall, so as to have him safe; then fire a gun all around him, and go often up to him, speak to him, and rub him in the face, and then fire the gun again, until he is free from starting. To make a horse used to an umbrella, walk before him, raising it up and shutting it again; let him smell it, and rub it over his head; then get on him, gently raise it, and ride him until fear is over.

HOUSEWIFE'S DEPARTMENT.

☞ Our female readers must excuse the brevity of the Housewife's Department in this number; it will be fuller in our next, and we take this occasion to invite communications for the same. Two or three have been received, and will appear.

The Dead in Christ.

(Selected for the Ohio Cultivator by one who deeply sympatises with the Editor in his late bereavement.)

Lift not thou the wailing voice;
Weep not; 'tis a Christian dieth;
Up, where blessed Saints rejoice,
Ransomed now the spirit flieth:
High in Heaven's own light she dwelleth,
Full the song of triumph swelleth,
Freed from earth, and earthly failing,
Lift for her no voice of wailing.

Pour not thou the bitter tear;
Heaven its book of comfort opeth;
Bids thee sorrow not, nor fear,
But as one who always hopeth;
Humbly here in faith relying,
Peacefully in Jesus dying,
Heavenly joy her eye is flushing,
Why should thine with tears be gushing?

They who die in Christ are blest;
Ours then be no thought of grieving;
Sweetly with their God they rest,
All their toils and troubles leaving;
So be ours the faith that saveth,
Hope that every trial braveth,
Love that to the end endureth,
And, through Christ, the crown secureth.

Industry in Females.

Industry in a female, is always an important trait.—There is, indeed, so much uncertainty in the voyage of life, that no young man can be deemed otherwise than very imprudent, who joins his fate to that of a person whose domestic education and habits of life have been adverse to the practice of this essential virtue. In a career where the utmost prudence is often incompetent to secure success, and where in nine cases out of ten, the fairest prospects are permanently blighted, and the brightest expectations nipped in their freshest bloom, to enter the domestic relation, and to assume the several responsibilities of husband, father, citizen, with one who is wholly inadequate to sustain shocks of adversity, or to alleviate the burden of misfortune by mutual assistance and support, is not only an evil, but a crime! And yet there are thousands who do so—thousands who annually lead to the altar beings with minds as vacant, and hands unaccustomed to employment, as though they had existed from childhood in a mental and moral vacuum—wholly ignorant of ordinary wants, and of the means by which they are hourly supplied.—*Ex.*

Timely Hints--Winter is Coming.

As winter approaches there are many things which claim the attention of the husbandman, especially in the arrangement of his domestic concerns. We shall be pardoned, perhaps, for indicating a few of the most important duties incumbent upon him at this inclement season, and when nothing that can contribute to his comfort, and enhance the enjoyment of his dependants should be neglected or overlooked.

In the first place, let him study ECONOMY in all things, but be particularly cautious never to let this sterling virtue degenerate into meanness. In the management of his affairs he should endeavor to circumscribe his expenditures within the prudential limits of actual necessity.—Not a dollar should be expended uselessly, or for the gratification of any whim or caprice, or to indulge a useless pride in those who naturally look to him for protection and support. A farmer, above all men, should be a man of principle, and this will always insure, on his part, a ready conformity to such practices as will ultimately lead him to affluence, and a respectable and honorable station in society of which he is a part.

WOOD-HOUSES.

Wood-houses, provided the business has not already been accomplished, should now be filled. It is a good plan to have a mixture of green and dry fuel for winter use, as by burning that which is seasoned, a greater consumption is necessary than where a part is green or partially dry. Recent experiments in heating rooms with fuel in different states of dryness, have established the fact that wood recently cut, when ignited by the assistance of a *quantum sufficit* of a thoroughly seasoned article, produces a more durable and steady, as well as a more intense heat. It is wrong to supposethat all the fluid matters contained in wood, are lost by evaporation, in burning. The sap of the sugar maple, for instance, disproves this theory.

BARNS AND OUT-BUILDINGS.

See that these are made close and comfortable. Animals do much better when sheltered from the cold. Less food is required, and they are not so liable to be attacked and debilitated by disease. The more comfortable an animal is kept, the less substance he will demand. Hogs especially should have warm quarters, and be supplied with clean, dry straw for nests. Their food should also, at this season, be warm and stimulating. With such treatment, they will thrive rapidly, and be fit for the tub much earlier than when treated with less care.—*Ger. Tel.*

From the Plow, Loom and Anvil.

Wool and Woolens.

The following extract from a letter that has been communicated to us will have interest for our wool-growing readers:

"In consequence of the great commercial crisis in Europe the last year, with the political troubles of the present, this country has been filled with foreign woolen fabrics, on which great sacrifices are being made; a large portion of these goods belong to bankrupt estates, and they must be sold whether they return 25, 50 or 75 cents on the dollar of their value abroad.

"Very large sales of American woollen goods are being made at auction in New York, at prices far below their cost. It is perfectly settled that there are more woollen goods in the country than can be consumed the present year, and the manufacturers have wisely adopted the policy of stopping a portion of their works. A hard contest has commenced between the foreign and home manufacturers, which is as sure to result in favor of the latter as that the sun will pursue his wonted course. Although the money pressure has lasted more than ten months in this country, there have been no failures among manufacturers, while in Europe the failures have been for millions in the same time. These facts induce me to believe that the statement made by Mr. Lawrence, of Lowell, to Mr Randall, [*O. Cultivator, May* 15, p. 76] was not too strong, viz: "The business of manufacturing wool in this country is on a better basis than ever before, inasmuch as the character, skill, and capital engaged in it are such that foreign competition is defied." This is strong language to be used in a country just starting into life in the cultivation of the useful arts."

From the foregoing it is palpable that the wool-grower must take his share in this contest. The low prices of goods, and suspension of a large amount of machinery, must reduce the value of wool below the cost of production. This is a temporary state of things, and we entreat the wool-growers not to do as they have formerly done in times of depression, break up their flocks and go into something else.

"Never give up," should be the motto of every American when engaged in a good cause.

Let them, on the contrary, set their shoulders to the wheel, determined *to take for themselves* the protection that is needed to enable them to compel the woollen machinery and the men who drive it to come and take their place by the side of their plows, and thus enable them to pay for their cloth in the spare, and now wasted, labor of themselves, their sons and daughters, their horses and oxen, their carts and wagons—and in potatoes, and turnips, and hay, of which the earth yields by tons—obtaining back from the consumer not only the cloth but the refuse of the products of the earth, by aid of which their poor lands may be made rich, while the rich ones are made richer by aid of careful cultivation and drainage.

Of all the labors of the farmer, there is none that would yield so largely as the cultivation of sheep, but there is none in which it is more necessary to have the consumer to take his place by the side of the producer. A steady market for fresh meat would double the value of his flock but mutton is a meat that cannot be preserved.—Beef, and pork, may be salted, but veal and mutton must be eaten where they are killed. Let the wool-grower then offer a premium to the mutton eaters of England, to come with their machinery and sit down by him, and he will, in a few years, make this country, as it should be, the great wool-growing, and the great wool manufacturing, country of the world, and then the necessity for protection will be at an end. Seeing what has been done, who can doubt that if the tariff of 1842 had been made the great national measure of the planters and farmers, the production and consumption of wool would be, even at this moment, almost double what it is.

There is not a wool-grower, nor a cotton-grower, nor a corn-grower, in the country, that would not pay towards having a road made to enable him to get to market in less time, and at less cost. Every man wants to get the consumer as near him, in point of time and expense, as possible, and yet the present ploicy of the country, advocated by both farmers and planters, is that of driving our present consumers to the west—there to become themselves producers—and replacing them by other consumers who are so distant that the cost of transport and exchange eats up the chief part of the product of labor.

Every man would pay for making a road by which to get his produce to market, *there to lose the manure, exhausting his land*—but when they are advised to bring the market to their sides, that they may *save the manure and enrich the land*, each man calculates how much his shirt would cost him at five cents a yard, and compare it with the six cents that he might for a time have to pay to the

weaver in his neighbourhood, forgetting that when the consumer is on the land the land becomes enriched by his presence, because he enables the farmer to give his attention to the raising of those things of which the earth yields largely, whereas when he is at a distance he must be fed with those things of which the earth yields by bushels.

Wherever there exists a market for milk, and veal, and mutton, and eggs, and turnips, and cabbages, farmers grow rich. Let then the farmer labor to seduce the consumers of those commodities to come and take their place by his side. The loom and the anvil are the best aids to the labor of the plow.

ENGLISH NEWS of the latest dates, represents the trade in bread stuffs as rather dull. Harvest was mostly over; the wheat crop of fair quality and moderate yield. Indian corn was in demand for Ireland. Pork and other American Provisions in fair demand, but not high prices.

The Markets.

We find no change worth noticing in prices of wheat and other farm produce. There is a moderate and healthy state of trade throughout the country, but no great activity, and no speculation.

CINCINNATI, Oct 14.—Trade dull of late, owing to low water. Flour 3,75 per bbl.; Wheat 75 cts. Corn, new, 25 a 30—old, 35 cts.; Oats 28 a 30 cts.; Barley and Rye 45 a 50 cts. per bushel. Flax seed 85 a 87 cts. Timothy seed 2,50 per bushel. Dried apples 60 cts., do. peaches $1,00 per bushel. Potatoes 35 a 40 cts. Mess Pork 9,50 a $10. per bbl. Lard, No. 1, 7 a 8 cts. per lb. Butter, for packing, 10 a 11 cts. per lb—retail, 15 a 20 cts. Cheese for shipment, 6 cts. Eggs are scarce—packers pay 12 cents per doz.

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 10.—Wheat 80 cts; Corn 35; Oats 23 per bush.; Flour 4,50 a 4,62 per bbl.

MANSFIELD, Oct. 11.—Flour $4. Wheat 78 cts. Oats 25; Corn 31.

CLEVELAND, Oct. 12.—Flour 4,50 a 4,75. Wheat 80 cents—market inactive.

NEW YORK, Oct. 14.—Flour 5,50 a 5,62 per bbl.—Wheat, prime, 1,25 per bush.; Corn 70 a 75.

COLUMBUS PRODUCE MARKET.

Corrected for the Ohio Cultivator, Oct. 1, 1848.

GRAIN.			Honey, strained	12½@	14
Wheat, ₱ bu,	75 @	77	POULTRY.		
Indian corn,	22 @	25	Turkeys, each,	@	
Oats,	19 @	20	Geese, "	@	
PROVISIONS.			Ducks, "	@	
Flour, retail, bbl,	4,25 @	00	Chickens, "	10 @	12
" 100 lbs	2,25 @		SUNDRIES.		
" Buckwheat.	2,00 @		Apples, bu.	20 @	25
Indian meal, bu	31 @	37	" dried,	50 @	
Hominy, quart,	3 @		Peaches, dried,	1,50 @	
Beef, hd qr	@		Potatoes,	40 @	50
" 100 lbs	3,50 @		Tomatoes, ₱ bu.,	@	
" fore qr	2,50 @		White beans bu	1,00 @	
Pork, mess, bbl,	8,00 @	8,50	Hay, ton,	4,00 @	5,00
Hogs, ₱ 100 lbs,	2,00 @		Wood, hard c'rd	1,50 @	2,00
Hams, country lb,	5 @	6	Salt, bbl., fine	2,25@	2,25
" city cured,	6 @	7	SEEDS.		
Lard, lb., ret.,	5 @	6¼	Clover, bu.,	3,00 @	3,25
" in kegs or bls,	@		Timothy,	1,50 @	2,00
Butter, best rolls,	10@	12½	Flax,	75 @	80
common,	9 @	10	ASHES		
in kegs,	8 @	9	Pot, 100 lbs	3,50 @	4,00
Cheese,	5 @	6¼	Pearl,	4,00 @	4,50
Eggs, dozen,	7 @	8	Wool, common,	18 @	20
Maple sugar, lb.	7 @		half bl'd,	20 @	23
molasses, gal.	@		full bl'd.	@	
Honey comb, lb,	10 @	12½			

CHOICE FRUIT TREES.

I SHall receive in a few days, a fine assortment of the choicest kinds of appies grown in Fairfield and Belmont counties, and noticed in the Reports of the Ohio Fruit convention, as remarkable for long keeping and other superior qualities; such as Rawles Janette, Pryor's Red, Fink's Seedling, Wells Willow Twig, Bartlett, Cooper, Gate or Belmont, &c, besides most of the approved old sorts.

Also, on hand a fine assortment of PEACHES, including some very large and choice kinds, tested in this vicinity.

Also, a good supply of Cherry, Plum, Pear and Quince trees, and some ornamental shrubs, &c.

Columbus, O., Oct. 15th, 1848. M. B. BATEHAM.

☞ Persons intending to plant large orchards for the Southern markets, will do well to consult the subscriber before purchasing trees, as he has given much attention to the kinds of apples best suited for that purpose.

OSAGE ORANGE FOR HEDGING.

THE subscribers have received direct from Texas a large supply of fresh Osage Orange Seed, which they are prepared to sell at reduced prices.

We have also 100,000 Osage Orange Plants for sale, of vigorous growth. Price $10, per thousand.

JOHN F. DAIR & Co.
33 and 35 Lower Market Street, Cincinnati.

Choice Merino Sheep.

I HAVE seventeen yearling bucks, for sale, of pure Merino breed, among them the one for which I was awarded $10 and a diploma at the New York State Fair at Buffalo last month.

CHARLES BUTTON.
Franklin Mills, Portage Co. O, Oct. 15.

OSAGE ORANGE SEEDS AND PLANTS.
AT REDUCED PRICES!

THE Subscriber has on hand a supply of Osage Orange seed, warranted good, for sale at only per quart.

ALSO—a fine lot of Osage Orange plants, of one years' growth, suitable for transplanting into hedge rows next spring, price $5 per thousand if two thousand or more are taken; or $1 per hundred for smaller quantities.

As many persons have failed with the seeds, there is now an opportunity offered for procuring this very beautiful and desirable article for hedges with no risk or delay, and very little expense. One thousand plants will set 500 feet of hedge—full directions for planting, &c., will be furnished each purchaser. Orders should be sent early.

Columbus, O., Oct. 15, 1848. M. B. BATEHAM.

MESSRS. CLINTON & KNIGHT,
PATENT AGENTS AND CIVIL ENGINEERS,

No. 5, WEST FOURTH ST., (NEXT TO CITY HOTEL) CIN., O.

PROCURE LETTERS PATENT, Re Issues, and additional Letters Patent; defend or oppose disputed patent claims, make sales or effect purchases of patent Rights, and advise dealers in the same of the value, scope and validity of Patent Property.

Civil Engineering prosecuted in all its branches, such as Public Works, plans or improvements in Machinery, &c.

The senior partner, for several years past a member of the Examining Corps of the Patent Office, Washington, D. C., and intimately acquainted with the business of that bureau, can be advantageously consulted by Inventors who have had cases delayed or rejected.

WANTED.—Salesmen for several important improvements.

☞ All letters should be post-paid. Retaining Fee, $5.

THOS. G. CLINTON, M. D.,
October 15, 1848. GEORGE H. KNIGHT, C. E.

FRUIT TREES.
Elliott & Co., Lake Erie Nursery.

THE proprietors of the Lake Erie Nursery, situated one and a half miles west of Cleveland, have just issued their new Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., &c.

The stock of Trees now on hand is probably the largest in the Western States, embracing over 100 varieties of Apples, 175 varieties of Pears, over 60 varieties of Cherries, 50 varieties of Plums, over 70 varieties of Peaches, Apricots, Nectarines, Grapes, Quinces, &c.

The stock of Ornamental Trees is large and among them are many of extra large size for street planting.

Of Shrubs and Roses nearly every valuable kind has been procured and is now for sale. Our rate of prices, which is very low, may be found in our Catalogue, which will be sent gratis to every post-paid applicant. ELLIOTT & CO.,

October 15, 1848. Lake Erie Nursery, Cleveland, O.

SALE OF BLOODED STOCK.

ON Wednesday, the 18th of October, 1848, I will sell at my residence in Madison township, Clark county, Ohio, three miles south east of South Charleston, on the old Xenia and London road, the following property: Fifty-five head of Cows, Heifers, and Calves; Twenty seven Steers; Three Bull Calves; Two Yearling Bulls; One 6 year old Bull, One 3 year old Bull. *(ninety in all.)*

The above stock are descended from the thorough-bred Durham on one side, crossed with the importation of 1817, and a few descended from good common Cows on one side and Durham on the other. I have but little stock but what are half blooded, and all grades up to thorough Bred, and a few of them—much the greater portion of the above stock are three-quarters blooded and upwards. The Steers to be cash on the day of sale—the rest, there will be a credit of Nine Months given, with approved security. All persons that purchase stock on the day of sale, and can pay the cash, a liberal deduction will be made. My reason for selling is, that I am over stocked.

I shall probably sell on the same day my stock of HORSES, SHEEP, HOGS, and TWO JENNEYS.

October 1st, 1848. JONATHAN PIERCE.

Wm. R. Prince, & Co.,

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Great Original Linnæan Gardens and Nurseries at Flushing, New York, offer the largest Collection of Superior Fruit and Ornamental Trees and plants to be found in America, and will transmit their price and *Descriptive Catalogue* to every post-paid applicant. The Trees are of large size, and will come promptly into bearing, and are such as are called "Extra size" at the West, and sold there at extra prices. A wholesale Catalogue will be sent to all Venders. The expense of transportation is now moderate, and orders per mail will meet prompt attention and a Transportation Line receipt will be sent to the purchaser. Cash or a reference to be sent with the order.

N. B. We caution the public against a deceptive use of our name and title by a new name. Winter, which is calulated to mislead many.

October 1, 1848.—1t

DEVON BULL CALF.

I WILL offer for sale at the Cattle Show at Zanesville on the 19th of October next, a thorough bred Devon Bull Calf 4 months old, from the Celebrated herd of Geo. Patterson, Esq., of Maryland. No finer cattle of the breed can be found in America than his. A specimen Bull and Heifer 3 years old, will be exhibited at the show. They will speak for themselves. ISAAC DILLON.

Zanesville, October 1, 1848.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

PLANTS of the following choice varieties can now be furnished at the prices annexed:

Large Early Scarlet, Burr's (old) Seedling, Hovey's Seedling, and Hudson, 50 cents per dozen, $2 per hundred.

Swainstone's Seedling, Columbus, Rival, Hudson, and Profusion, 75 cents per dozen, $3 per hundred.

Scioto, Scarlet Melting, New Pine, and Ohio Mammoth, $1 per dozen; $5 per hundred.

Late Prolific, $3 per dozen

The following varieties of some note have been received, and are under cultivation, but not yet sufficiently proven to test their merits:

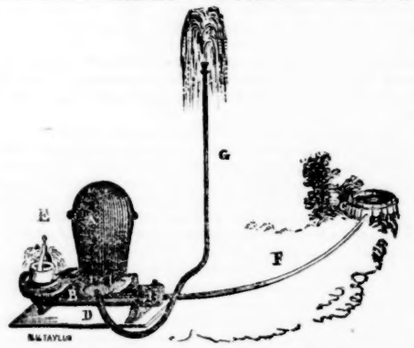
Eberlein's Seedling, Taylor's Seedling, Jenny's Seedling, Willey, Neck'd Pine, Boston Pine, Black Prince, and some others.

The following eight kinds have been cultivated and rejected by me, as of little value compared with the first 13 varieties:

Bayne's Extra Early, Methven, Ross Phœnix, Bishop's Orange, Downton, Myatt's Eliza, Stoddard's Red and White Alpine.

I have no hesitation in placing six of my new varieties before all others that have been tried and proved here, for size, quality, great productiveness, vigorous and hardy character, they excel all others.

JOHN BURR.
Columbus, July 15, 1848.



(EXPLANATION.—A. B. E. The machine; D. plank on which it stands; C. the spring; F. delivery pipe from spring to machine; G. conducting pipe from the machine to the house, or place where the water is desired.)

GATCHEL'S IMPROVED HYDRAULIC RAMS.

FROM all that we have seen of the operation of different forms of the Hydraulic Rams, we have become convinced that the one known as *Gatchel's Patent* is the best; and having secured an agency from the patentee, we design to keep a supply of the different sizes on hand, together with suitable pipe, ready to put them in operation for any persons who may desire the benefits of this very useful invention.

The owners of the patent right for the southern half of Ohio, including the counties of Tuscarawas, Knox, Delaware, Logan, &c., are Geo. M. Zell, Moses Kelley and P. McKinsey, of Waynesville, Warren county, O These gentlemen are now engaged in selling rights of counties, and putting up rams where it is convenient. They have sold at present, about twelve counties out of forty-six. We are authorized to sell and put up rams in any of the counties unsold; also, to dispose of rights for counties if such are desired.

The owner of the patent for northern Ohio is RANSOM BARTLE, of the State of New York, is now traveling in northern Ohio, selling rights and Rams. He has also authorized us to sell and put up the machines in his territory for any who may desire; or to sell rights of counties.

One of Gatchel's Improved Rams may be seen in operation, at any time, on application at Burr's Store, or at the office of this paper. Also, at the Mansion House in Circleville.

M. B. BATEHAM.
Columbus, O., July 15, 1848

OSAGE ORANGE FOR HEDGING.

THE advantages which live hedges possess over fences in point of durability, cheapness and beauty, is beginning to attract the attention of farmers in this country, and the peculiar adaptation of the Maclura or Osage Orange for this species of inclosure, is acknowledged by all who have attempted its cultivation. It is well suited to this climate, easily cultivated, and in three or four years forms a barrier impervious alike to the smallest barn yard fowl, the horse, the ox and the malicious trespasser.

The subscriber, has recently received, direct from Texas, a supply of the Osage Orange Seed, gathered during the winter of 1848, and is now prepared to fill orders for any quantity that may be desired at a price much lower than fresh Seed has heretofore been sold in this market. E. B. HINMAN.

N E corner Main and Lower Market st., Cincinnati.
September 13, 1848.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

THE subscribers wish to inform their customers and the public that they have now on hand, and will offer for sale during the ensuing planting season, a large stock of Fruit Trees, consisting in part of

50,000	Apple Trees,	suitable for	orchard	planting;
20,000	Pear	do.	do.	do. do.
15,000	Cherry	do.	do	do, do.
15,000	Peach	do.	do.	do. do.

Besides large quantities of Apricots, Plums, Nectarines, Quinces, Grapes, and all the small fruits. The trees are vigorous and healthy and the collection comprises all the leading standard sorts, as well as nearly all the rare and choice ones recently brought to notice. All have been propagated under the personal supervision of the proprietors, whose care, experience, and entire devotion to the business, give the public a reasonable guarantee for accuracy. A large share of attention is paid to the culture of Garden Fruit Trees, and the stock of Apples on Paradise stocks, Pears on Quince, and Cherry on Mahaleb, is probably the largest in the Union.

All the famous NATIVE FRUITS OF WESTERN NEW YORK can be supplied genuine, propagated from bearing trees. Immense quantities of young trees, suitable for distant transmission, can be supplied.

The stock of Ornamental Trees is very large, and quantities for planting streets, public grounds, &c. or to dealers, can be furnished very low.

HEDGE PLANTS can also be furnished by the 1000 or 10,000, comprising Norway Spruce, Arbor Vitæ, Hemlock, Red Ceder, English and American Thorn, Buckthorn, Osage Orange, Honey Locust, Privet, &c.

50,000 Plum Seedling, one year old.
20,000 Quinces of the best sorts for pear stocks.

Besides large quantities of Rhubarb, Asparagus, Sea Kale, &c., and all other articles in the nursery line at reduced rates. Trees and Plants will be packed in the best manner and shipped to any part of the Union.

A new catalogue, for 1848 and '49, is just published, and will be sent, gratis, to all post-paid applicants. Wholesale catalogues sent when desired. Orders should be forwarded immediately. Address

ELLWANGER, BARRY & ROWE.
Mt. Hope Garden and Nurseries,
Rochester, N. Y. Oct. 1st, 1848.

FRUIT TREES, IN MAHONING CO.

THE subscriber has on hand for sale, a handsome lot of Fruit Trees, comprising apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches and Cherries, also, some Grape Vines and Ornamental trees, &c., all of which he will sell at reasonable prices, at his residence in GOSHEN, Mahoning Co., Ohio, 4½ miles north west of Salem. All trees will be warranted to prove satisfactory. ZACHARIAH JENKINS.

August 15, 1848.

ADVERTISEMENTS suited to the character of this paper, are charged at the rate of 6 cents per line for the first, and 3 cents for each subsequent insertion.